

County Snapshot

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Los Angeles County is bordered by 76 miles of Pacific Ocean coastline. Surrounding counties include Kern, Orange, San Bernardino and Ventura. The county also includes the islands of Santa Catalina and San Clemente.

Approximately 29 percent of all California residents reside in Los Angeles County and by 2020 the population is projected to reach 11,575,700. This will amount to an increase of almost 18 percent over the current population.

The 1999 annual average statistics show the county's civilian labor force to be 4,658,600 with an unemployment rate of 5.9 percent. This is slightly higher than the state's unemployment rate of 5.2 percent.

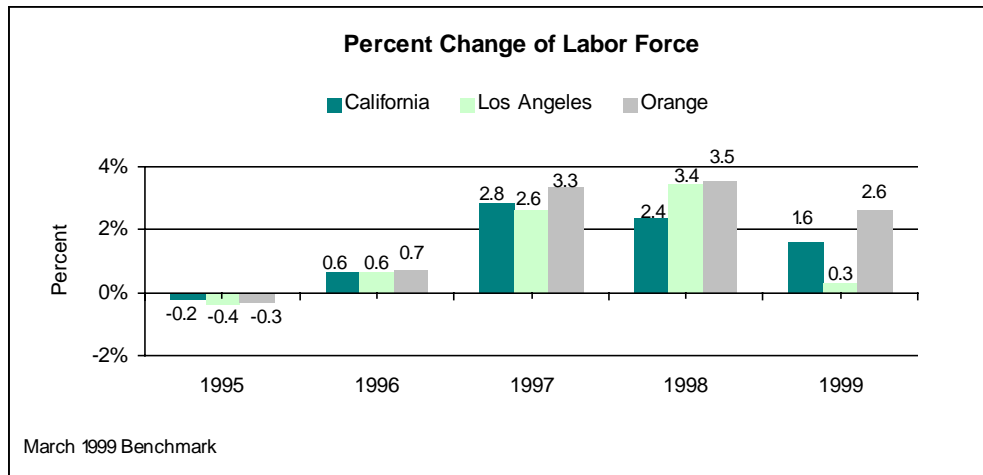
In 1999, services was the dominant industry in the county, accounting for almost 33 percent of all employment with one fourth of the jobs in the business services sector. Manufacturing accounted for 16 percent and retail trade made up over 15 percent of the total. The eating and drinking places sector provided almost 38 percent of the jobs in retail trade.

Industry employment projections indicate that most of the future nonfarm wage and salary jobs will be in services, government, and retail trade. Services is projected to grow by almost 16 percent and, within the industry, business services will continue to be the dominant component. Government will grow by a little over 11 percent with a majority of the growth in local government, particularly local public education. Retail trade is expected to add about 52,000 jobs, a growth of almost 9 percent.

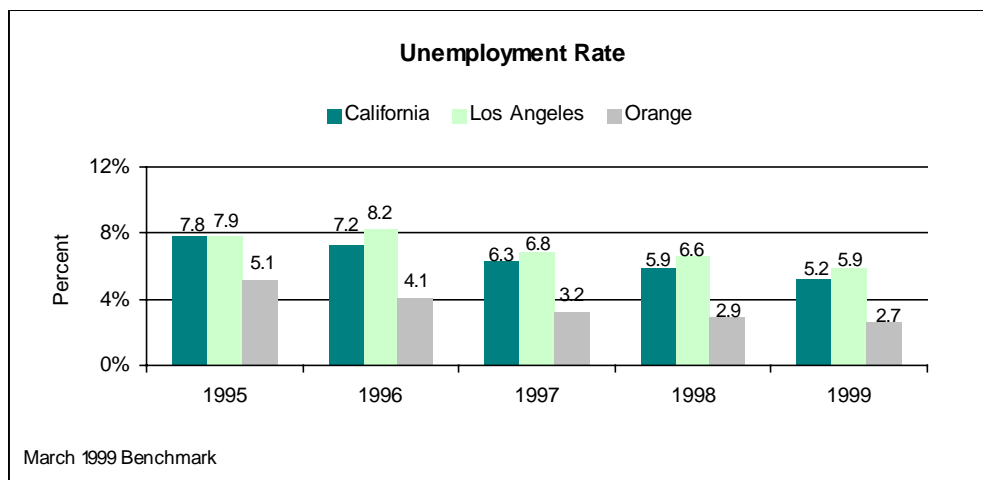
Labor market conditions in Los Angeles County have been improving steadily over the last five years and are expected to continue.

LABOR FORCE

Annual average statistics show that from 1995 to 1999, the civilian labor force in Los Angeles County grew by 309,000 or 7.1 percent with the greatest growth, 3.4 percent, occurring in 1998. Neighboring Orange County recorded 10.6 percent cumulative growth over the recorded period.

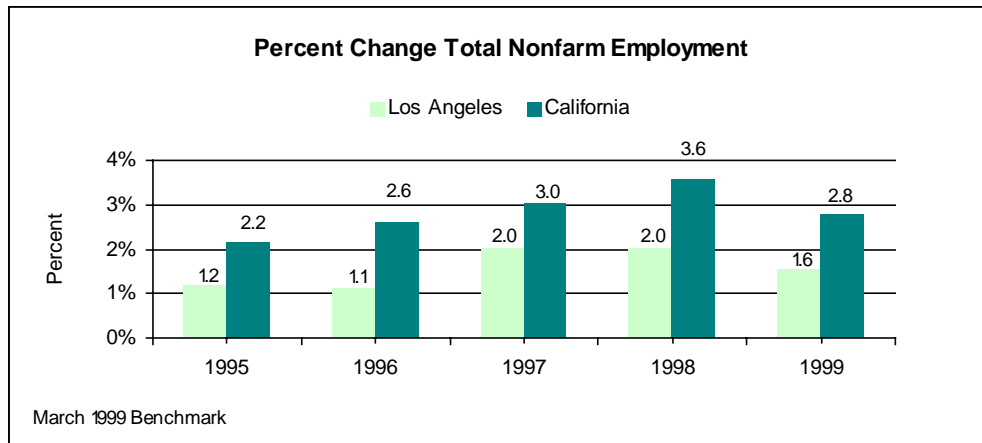


Since 1995, the annual average unemployment rates have declined for both Los Angeles and Orange counties, indicative of increasing employment opportunities in the area. In Los Angeles County, the rate has declined two percentage points, from 7.9 percent in 1995 to 5.9 percent in 1999. In neighboring Orange County, the rate declined 2.4 percentage points.

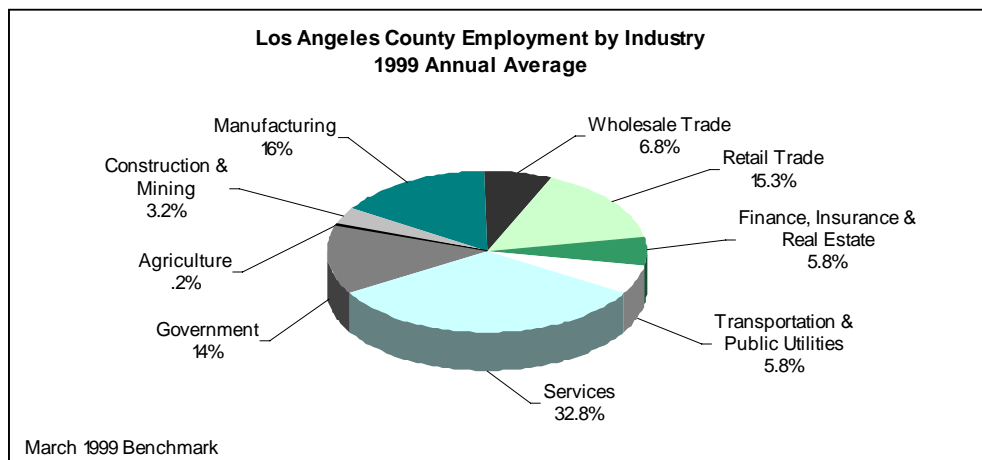


INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT

From 1995 to 1999, Los Angeles County maintained consistent growth in nonfarm wage and salary employment. Cumulative growth over the years was 258,800 jobs, a growth of 6.9 percent. The growth in 1999 was down slightly to 1.6 percent.



In 1999, services, manufacturing and retail trade dominated employment in Los Angeles County. Projections in nonfarm employment for the forecast period, 1997 to 2004, indicate that services, government and retail trade will account for almost 72 percent of the county's job growth.



OCCUPATIONAL EMPLOYMENT

Demographic trends, shifts in demands for products or services, technological innovations and the way business is conducted are some of the variables that drive employment in an occupation up or down. Also, occupations which have large employment and have high turnover rates generally provide the most job openings. Los Angeles County is projected to have many employment opportunities in the high turnover occupations.

Associated Occupations	SERVICES 1997 – 2004 Projected Growth 15.6%
	Guards and Watch Guards – 13,450 job openings. Stand guard at entrance gates or walk about premises of businesses, industrial establishments, or private residences to prevent theft, violence or infractions of rules. Direct patrons or employees, control traffic. Short-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$7.67
	Janitors, Cleaners-Except Maids – 7,510 job openings. Keep buildings in clean and orderly condition; perform heavy cleaning duties such as operating motor driven cleaning equipment, mopping floors, washing walls and glass, and removing rubbish. Short-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$7.41
	General Office Clerks – 6,130 job openings. Performs a wide variety of tasks. Clerical duties may be assigned in accordance with the office procedures of the individual establishments. Short-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$10.40
	Misc. Helpers, Laborers – Hand, NEC – 5,380 job openings. Perform a broad array of helper and laborer jobs that require little training; assist more skilled production, construction, operating and maintenance workers with routine, physical work under close supervision. Short-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$7.42
Associated Occupations	General Managers, Top Executives – 4,920 job openings. Include both top and mid-level managers whose duties and responsibilities are too diverse and general in nature to be classified in any functional or line area of management and administration. Work Experience, plus a Bachelor's or higher. Median Hourly Wage - \$37.44
	GOVERNMENT 1997 – 2004 Projected Growth 11.3%
	Police Patrol Officers – 2,350 job openings. Maintain order, enforce laws and ordinances, protect life and property in an assigned patrol district or beat. Patrol on foot or in a vehicle; investigate accidents; apprehend, arrest and process prisoners; and give evidence in court. Long-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$25.12
	General Office Clerks – 740 job openings. Performs a wide variety of tasks. Clerical duties may be assigned in accordance with the office procedures of the individual establishments. Short-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$10.40
	Corrections Officers And Jailers – 710 job openings. Guard inmates in penal or rehabilitative institutions in accordance with established regulations and procedures. May guard prisoners in transit. Long-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$19.44
Associated Occupations	Social Workers, Except Medical And Psychiatric – 540 job openings. Counsel and aid individuals and families requiring social service assistance. Bachelor's Degree. Median Hourly Wage - \$18.27
	Compliance Officers And Enforcement Inspectors, Except Construction – 350 job openings. Enforce adherence to policies, procedures, or regulations and advise on standards. May inspect and enforce regulations on such matters as health, safety, food, immigration, licensing, or interstate commerce. Work Experience. Median Hourly Wage - \$20.06
	RETAIL TRADE 1997 – 2004 Projected Growth 8.8%
	Salespersons, Retail – 12,960 job openings. Get the customer interested by describing the merchandise and showing how it is used. May also order merchandise, stock shelves, mark price tags, take inventory and prepare displays. Short-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$8.04
	Cashiers – 9,410 job openings. Handle cash and credit payments, make change, give receipts, account for all payments, and perform related clerical duties. Short-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage – \$7.08
Associated Occupations	Waiters And Waitresses – 3,920 job openings. Serve food and drink to customers. Duties may include explanation about how the meal is prepared, wine recommendations or simple food preparation at the table. Short-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$6.01
	First-Line Supervisor / Manager Sales – 3,790 job openings. Directly supervise and coordinate activities of marketing, sales, and related workers. May perform management functions, such as budgeting, accounting, marketing, and personnel work. Work Experience. Median Hourly Wage - \$16.71
	Combined Food Preparation And Service Workers – 2,150 job openings. Do both food preparation and food service. Short-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$6.12

This **County Snapshot** is a product of:
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Labor Market Information Division
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